

Hamilton County Community Corrections Advisory Board Meeting Minutes November 4, 2010

The following members were present: George Buskirk, Jeff Davis, Larry Dawson, Roger Drayer, Honorable Paul Felix, Beth Gehlhausen, Eric Juarez, Stephanie Lyons, Leeann Murray, Honorable Dan Pfleging, Steve Schwartz, Dan Stevens, and Honorable Wayne Sturtevant. A quorum was present. Ralph Watson and Stephanie Ruggles were also in attendance.

Steve Schwartz called the meeting to order.

Steve called for the approval of the September meeting minutes. Judge Sturtevant made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Judge Pfleging seconded, motion unanimously carried.

Ralph Watson provided an overview of the 13th Fiscal Report for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. We will be returning a total of \$9,617.66 from the Grant to the DOC. He also reviewed the first three reports for the 2010-2011 fiscal year which were delayed until the 13th Report was finished for 2009-2010. The look of the most recent reports has changed due to DOC format changes. We are no longer required to have the Auditor sign each report, although we still need to balance with the Auditor's monthly reports. All reports are now being submitted to the DOC and the Auditor's Office electronically. Ralph noted that we have fallen below PI income collection projections for July through September. This is partly due to continued unemployment issues among many program participants as well as lower numbers of program participants overall at this time. Jeff Davis made a motion to approve the fiscal reports as presented. Dan Stevens seconded, motion unanimously carried.

Public Comment

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Director's Report

A written report was submitted and reviewed by the Executive Director.

Old Business

Ralph Watson reviewed expenditures for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. We ended the year with approximately \$1.2 million in the Project Income account. The 2010-2011 budget of approximately \$1.5 million will exceed the projected annual income of \$1.3 million, so the balance remaining in the fund at the end of the 2009-2010 fiscal year is expected to be utilized in some capacity by the end of the current fiscal year.

New Business

Larry Dawson presented a proposed slate of new Advisory Board officers for the 2011 year: Beth Gehlhausen as Board President, Roger Drayer as Vice President, George Buskirk as Secretary, and Judge Sturtevant remains as the Judicial Liaison. Larry made a motion to approve slate as presented. Judge Felix seconded, motion unanimously carried.

Ralph Watson discussed the Justice Reinvestment Project being conducted by the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the Pew Center on the States. Members of the Project met with stakeholders from September through October and have been charged with analyzing data and developing policy options, assisting in adopting the new policies, and with measuring performance. They will be

developing and presenting options from November through January. The committee will be presenting a draft policy framework at the Statehouse's House Chambers on November 18th. Current findings have shown that the prison population has grown 40% since the year 2000 while crime rates have remained stable. If this trend continues, the State will be unable to provide the necessary funding. In addition, the greatest growth has been among non-violent offenders who could most likely be better served at a lower level of supervision. The study has also demonstrated that supervision in the community overlaps and is uncoordinated, that most non-violent offenders receive no treatment while in prison, and that theft and drug offenders are sentenced primarily with a one-size-fits-all policy. Ralph indicated that the findings presented over the next few months could have a significant impact on every level of the current State correctional system.

Ralph reviewed the 2011 County Budget process with the Board. Six positions were eliminated from the County General fund, five LUCs and one Drug & Alcohol Case Manager. The overtime budget was cut in the County Corrections fund, but Ralph believes we'll be able to have it reinstated in January as overtime in that account is reimbursed from our Project Income fund.

Ralph discussed October's Strategic Planning Session and thanked Board members who were able to attend. He asked Board members to consider volunteering on the Department Teams that are currently forming for the new year.

Ralph requested two additional appropriations which would be covered by the Project Income fund. The first was an additional \$5,900 in the Repair & Maintenance line to cover a service contract to maintain our emergency power supply. Dan Stevens made a motion to approve the additional appropriation. Beth Gehlhausen seconded, motion unanimously carried. The second appropriation was for an additional \$25,000 for a vehicle to replace the Impala which currently has 80,000 miles and needs over \$1,200 of work to be drivable. It was originally going to be replaced in the 2011-2012 budget, but circumstances warranted moving up the replacement date. After significant discussion regarding this issue, the Board decided that it was best to repair the Impala rather than replace it at this time due to the County's current economic condition. Leeann Murray made a motion to disapprove the appropriation. Steve Schwartz seconded, motion carried with one opposed (Dan Stevens).

The regular meeting was adjourned; members remained for an Executive Session regarding possible litigation. The next Advisory Board meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 2nd at noon**.